

Service Program Team Validation Decision Information
Extension of Comment Period for the Experimental GATE Forecast product

Service Program Team: Aviation

SPT POC: William Bauman

Answer the following and include details for any "NO" answers.

Question	YES	NO
Q1: Is the request Title, SCOPE, and applicability well defined in the request form?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q2: Is request appropriate for the NWS?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q3: Have all necessary stakeholders been engaged and are they in agreement?	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q4: Is there a clear benefit to the NWS by providing this capability?	x	<input type="checkbox"/>

Answer the following and include details for any "YES" answers.

Question	No	YES
Q5: Are there any potential conflicts or issues with policy which should be discussed and addressed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q6: Is there any change in working conditions or other issue requiring NWSEO review?	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q7: Is this request a duplicate or of such nature that it should be merged with an existing request/requirement or capability? Or, Is something like this already being done in another region? PSCMT: There are other existing operational GATE Forecasts. Ensure that during the evaluation the Aviation program manager reviews the legacy GATE Products and the new Experimental GATE forecast to determine if all are needed or if the legacy product(s) can be proposed to discontinue.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Q8: If implemented, will this request result in a New (or significantly changed) product or service available to the general public or NWS "Partners"? PSCMT: Already entered into 10-102	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Detail any other issues or coordination required which were not captured in the previous questions. PSCMT: Ensure algorithm is scientifically valid.		

PSCMT Recommendation: OK to extend comment period to test new features/algorithms. Ensure that action items (below) are completed during evaluation.

Is there a reason on 2 comments were received during past 2 comment periods? Do we need to advertise the survey via other methods in addition to the survey?

1. Ensure that during the evaluation the Aviation program manager reviews the legacy and new GATE forecasts to determine if all are needed or if the legacy product can be proposed to discontinue.
2. Ensure algorithm is scientifically valid.

(Comment from Mike Bettwy: these items will be addressed during the evaluation period)

Table 1: Stakeholders. Please indicate all of the SPT members, Subject Matter Experts and other stakeholders involved in addressing this request.

Office or Organization	Name	For every SPT member indicate: Approve, Neutral or Not approve (with rationale). For other stakeholder, indicate role and comments as appropriate.
SPT Team Lead	William Baumann	Approve
Pacific Region	Chris Brenchley	Approve
Alaska Region	Jeff Osiensky	Approve
Western Region	Scott Birch	Approve
Central Region	Brian Hirsch	Approve
Southern Region	Paul Witsaman	(neutral)
Eastern Region	Noelle Runyan	(neutral)
NCEP	Clinton Wallace Joshua Scheck	Approve
NWSEO	Christa Jacobs Victor Proton	approve
Interagency Partners	Rick Heuwinkel Kevin Johnston	Approve
PSCMT	Joan Von Ahn Wendy Levine Mark Tew	Approve with the following conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that during the evaluation the Aviation program manager reviews the legacy and new GATE forecasts to determine if all are needed or if the legacy product can be proposed to discontinue. 2. Ensure algorithm is scientifically valid.

SPT DECISION and RECOMMENDATION

SPT Decision on this request is: **Approved by SPT (Mike Bettwy)**

The SPT recommends that this request be: **Approved to extend comment period for National Experimental (Mike Bettwy)**

Date completed and Forwarded to AFS: 6/7/2016

AFS Director Disposition: Choose an item from list below..

Date: enter date.

☐ Not approved by AFS

☐ Validated AFS level

☐ Approved : Schedule MDC Meeting

☐ Approved National Operational

☐ Approved National Experimental

☒ Approved Extend Comment Period

☐ Approved Discontinue Experimental

☐ Resolve Issues and come back

Enter comments or follow up information.

Approval Memo to Extend the Comment Period for the Experimental Gate Forecast

1. Product/Service Description

The Experimental Gate Forecast is an online display of a decision algorithm that uses the High-Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) model to determine potential thunderstorm activity (TS) in a particular terminal arrival or departure sector. The product display overlays the sector boundaries on the current radar loop. The sectors are color-coded using a three tiered approach:

- Green - no significant weather;
- Yellow - some significant weather that might affect some portions of the gate (low probability, $25 < TS < 60$); and
- Red - significant weather that could affect large portions of the gate (high probability, $TS > 60$).

This product is intended to for use by airline operators and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Traffic Managers for strategic coordination and planning for air traffic reroutes due to TS. Comments received thus far are favorable of the product, although some users (primarily Center Weather Service Unit (CWSU) forecasters) have requested the ability to edit time periods. In response to user feedback, CWSU meteorologists will be given the capability to log in and edit the time periods displayed. An enhanced algorithm will be used to produce the forecast for this comment period.

2. Experimental Comment/Review Period: June 10, 2016 – September 30, 2016

RECOMMEND: The Director of the Analyze, Forecast and Support Office approve an extension of the comment period for the Experimental Gate Forecast.

APPROVED: _____

DISAPPROVED: _____

DATE: _____

Andrew Stern,
Director, Analyze, Forecast and Support Office